

MOTOR REPAIRS.

We undertake the complete overhauling and repairing of Motor Cars and Motor Cycles. All work done by expert mechanics under an experienced European Motor Engineer.

ALEX. ROSS & Co.,
Agents for KING 8 Cylinder Cars.

Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office in the United Kingdom.

At times of crisis it must be Bovril

BRITISH TO THE BACKBONE

No. 18,885. 號五十八百三千八百一第 日九十二月二閏年巳丁 HONGKONG FRIDAY, APRIL 20th, 1917. 五拜禮 號十二月四年六國民華中 PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH.

INTIMATIONS

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY
PORTLAND CEMENT.
In Casks 375 lbs. net.
In Bags 112 lbs. net.
SHAW, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

ALLSOPP'S
BRITISH PILSENER BEER.

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Telephone No. 76.

NEW CARTRIDGES.

BY popular English Manufacturers.
In all Bore and Sizes.
SNOKELESS POWDER AND CHILLED SHOT. From No. 10 to 555G. at \$8.47 and \$7.50 per 100. SPORTING REQUISITES and AIR GUNS a Variety.

Inspection invited.

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FURNITURE AND PHOTO GOODS STORE.
Photographic Goods of Every Description in Stock.
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Canton Marbles in Various Shades.
Telephone 1219.

PEAK TRAMWAY COMPANY LIMITED.

TIME TABLE

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WE WILL DELIVER A

"MOUTRIE"
PIANO

for \$50.

You pay the balance in small monthly instalments
that will not embarrass you.EVERY INSTRUMENT GUARANTEED
FOR 5 YEARS.

FULL PRICE ALLOWED FOR PIANOS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.

S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd.

[28-5]

WHERE WAS MOSES
WHEN THE LIGHT WENT OUT?

Why, in the dark, of course.

And why?

Because he had no Candles in the House.

Don't you be had in the same way.

ALWAYS KEEP CANDLES IN THE HOUSE.

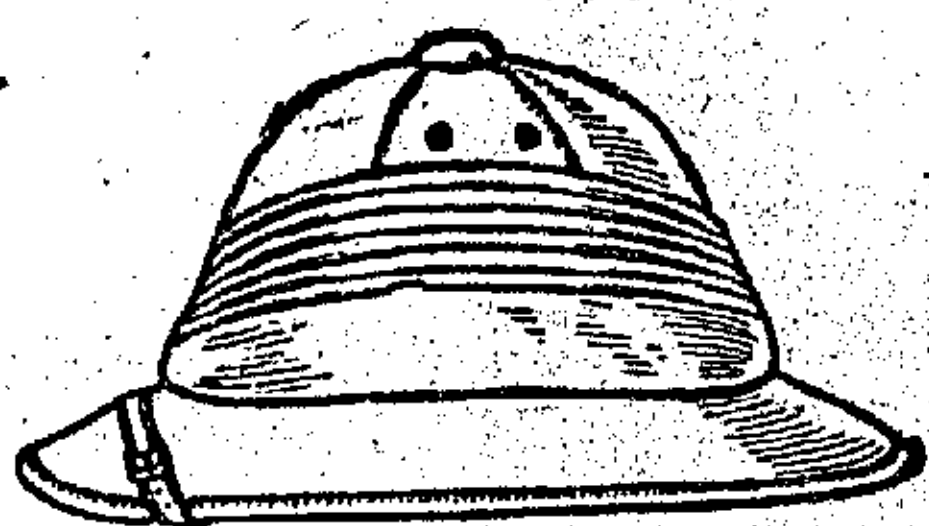
CROWN CANDLES.

Are obtainable from—
SINCERE CO.
SUN CO.
WING ON CO.PRICES:—Large Size, 25 Cents per packet.
Small Size, 16 Cents per packet.

OR IN CASES OF 25 PACKETS.

[444]

SUN



HATS

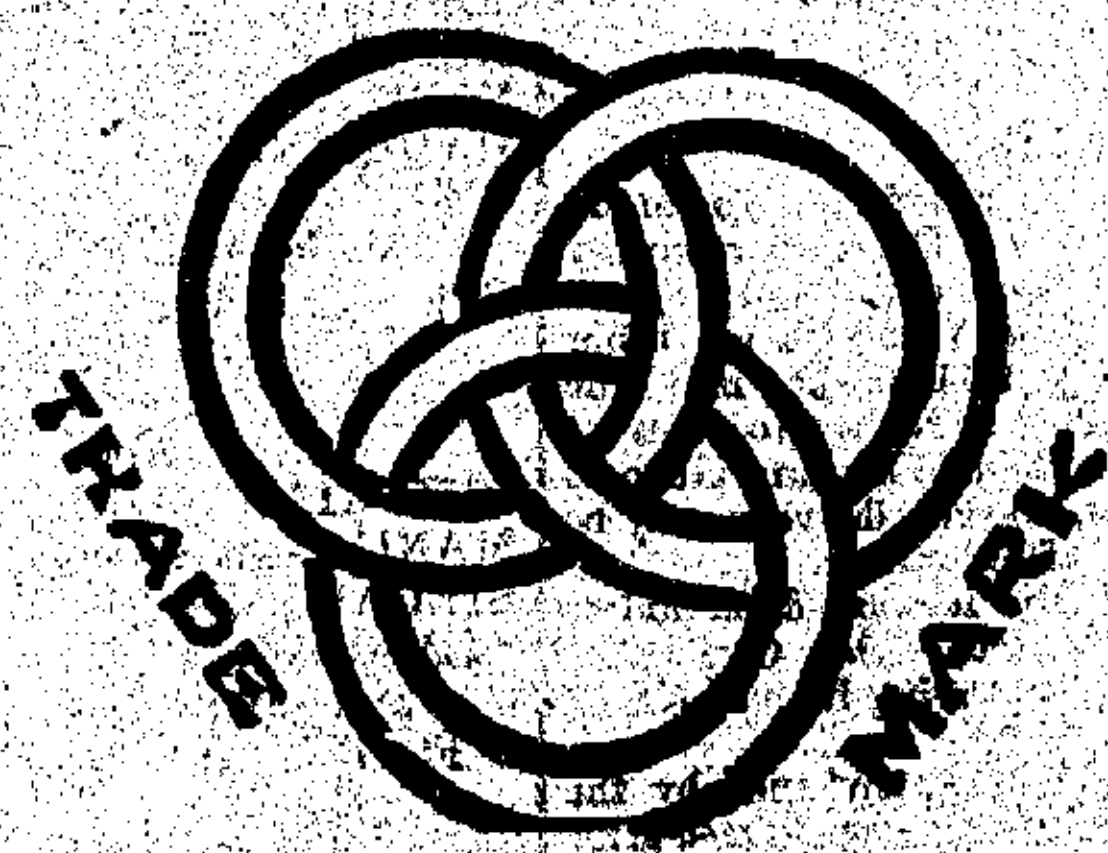
Made on Cork and Rubber or Felt bodies, covered with
a strong white Drill, leather bound and chin strap.
Have smart white Puggarees, are light in weight,
thoroughly sunproof and waterproof.Inexpensively Priced at \$7.50, \$9.50
and \$10.00 each.

MACKINTOSH

A CO., LTD.,
Men's Wear Specialists,
16, DES VOEUX ROAD.

TELEPHONE 29.

[109]

BALLANTINE'S
BEER AND STOUT

PURITY, QUALITY AND FLAVOUR

"THREE RINGS"
DONNELLY & WHYTE,
SOLE AGENTS.

TRADE MARK

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL.RETURN OF GERMANS AFTER
THE WAR.

ANIMATED DISCUSSION.

THE OFFICIAL MAJORITY.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held yesterday at the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—

His Excellency the Governor, Sir FRANCIS HENRY MAY, K.C.M.G.

His Excellency Major-General F. VENTURA (General Officer Commanding Troops in China).

Hon. Mr. CLAUD SEVERN, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. E. D. C. WOLFE, Colonial Treasurer.

Hon. Mr. J. H. KEMP (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. E. R. HALLIDAY (Secretary for Chinese Affairs).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. C. MUI, MESSER (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Mr. WUI YUK, C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. LAU CHU PAK.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. E. SHELLEN.

Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK.

Hon. Mr. C. E. ANTON.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table report of proceedings of Finance Committee, No. 4, and moved that it be adopted.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded; and this was agreed to.

LETTERS PATENT.

The Letters Patent constituting the offices of Commander-in-Chief and the Governor of Hongkong were read.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid upon the table the report of the Police Magistrates Court for the year, 1916, and also the quarterly return of excesses on sub-heads met by savings under heads expenditure of for the first quarter of 1917.

THE OFFICIAL MAJORITY.

Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK asked the following questions:—

1.—Will the Government state whether the attention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies is especially drawn on all occasions to motions made by Unofficial members which have been defeated by the use of the Official majority against the unanimous vote of Unofficial members of Council?

2.—Will the Government also state whether on all occasions when a Bill, or any part of a Bill, is passed by the use of the Official majority, against the unanimous vote of the Unofficial members of Council, a special explanation is given to the Secretary of State for the Colonies to justify the use of the Official majority, and are the circumstances of different cases fully set forth in a special despatch?

3.—Will the Government state when the German Bank and other "immovable" German private property will be sold by public auction?

4.—Having regard to the fact that the German Bank property has already been advertised for the prescribed period of three months, will it be considered necessary to advertise it again for any period longer than a few days?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied as follows:—It is the general practice to report specially to the Secretary of State for the Colonies a case in which the unanimous or nearly unanimous vote of the Unofficial members of the Legislative Council has been defeated by the vote of the official members. Such reports contain, where necessary, a statement explanatory of the reason for the official vote. A search through the Hansard reports of a number of years shows that there have been one or two exceptions, as, for instance, at the following pages:—1907, page 38; 1911, page 117; 1911, page 235; 1912, page 102.

It is intended that the premises of the Deutsche Asiatische Bank, and all other immovable property in the Colony of Hongkong belonging to German firms which are being wound up under the Alien Enemies (Winding-up) Ordinances, 1914 to 1917, shall be sold by public auction within the course of the next 4 months.

It is proposed that all the sales shall be advertised for a period of 3 months, and that the sale of the premises of the Deutsche Asiatische Bank shall also be readvertised for that period. If the latter property were sold at a few days' notice intending purchasers might be greatly inconvenienced and embarrassed, as they may have to obtain instructions from the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

RETURN OF THE GERMANS.

Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK, in accordance with notice of motion, moved the following resolution:—

"It is the opinion of this Council that it is in the best interest of the Colony of Hongkong that persons of German nationality should be excluded therefrom for a period of at least 10 years following the declaration of peace; and that, subsequently, they be only admitted into the Colony under strict licence."

In doing so he said:—Sir, I rise to make the following motion standing in my name:—

"It is the opinion of the Council that it is in the best interest of the Colony of Hongkong that persons of German nationality, should be excluded therefrom for a period of at least ten years following the declaration of Peace; and, that, subsequently, they be only admitted into the Colony under strict licence."

In speaking to the motion, and because I am most anxious to avoid anything in the nature of exaggeration on so important and far-reaching a matter as this, I crave the indulgence of your Excellency and this Council if I make rather free reference to notes.

At the outset, I would say that we do not presume to dictate to the Home Government on a question which affects all parts of our wide-flung Empire, but, it is only a few days since your Excellency called attention in a meeting of the Legislative Council to the not wholly unworthy efforts of this Colony to help the Motherland in her hour of need in one way or another, and we contend that these and our large annual military contribution entitle us, at any rate, to indicate our wishes to the Home Government, and, with all deference, I believe that such a pronouncement will be welcomed by them for guidance when the whole question comes up for decision.

Australia, Canada and New Zealand have, I believe, already indicated their wishes in no uncertain manner, and Hongkong with its great commercial interests surely cannot be excluded, especially when it is remembered that at the forthcoming Imperial Conference, whilst the Dominions have their own representatives, Hongkong, with other Crown Colonies, will be represented by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

It is noteworthy that in recent speeches made by prominent world politicians an attempt is made to draw a line of demarcation between the German Government and the German people, and there is only too much cause to fear that directly peace has been declared we shall hear on all sides that it was the Prussians who made the war and that we have no quarrel with the peaceful Teutons.

Sir, the spirit which on the outbreak of war led to the disgraceful attacks in Berlin upon the Russian, French, and, especially, the British Embassies and compelled our Ambassador to sink out of Berlin in the grey dawn, lest his party be attacked ere departure; to the invasion of Belgium, with its attendant pillaged atrocities, as "a Military necessity" in defiance of sacred treaties; and, later, to the murder of women and children on land and sea whilst German officers and men looked on and jeered; and, later still, to the starvation and torture of wounded and helpless prisoners-of-war—this spirit is not the product of the war, but is the Prussian spirit which permeates the whole German nation—man, woman and child—and which will take years to eradicate, and we say that the people who can rejoice over nameless crimes, such as these, who revel in the pernicious doctrine that "might is right" and that necessity justifies any crime, however damnable in the eyes of the world it may be, and who can celebrate such an atrocious act as the sinking of the Lusitania by declaring a public school holiday, to say nothing of the deliberate murder of Edith Cavell and Captain Fryatt and countless other horrors, are

not fit to be received hereafter into the brotherhood of Nations until they have expiated their crimes against God and civilization and truly reformed their ways.

Speaking for the Mercantile Community of Hongkong, which has by far the largest stake in the Colony, I say that we have no desire to be—indeed, that we will not be, if it can be avoided—associated in this Colony, either socially or commercially, with men and women who thus far have failed to realize what honour, justice and mercy mean, who acknowledge neither International obligations nor treaty unless they stand to gain by doing so, and in whose nature there is no chord which vibrates to the claims of either.

A close study of the causes which led up to this terrible war and of Germany's deliberate acts thus far will convince anyone who is not blind to the truth that they are the inevitable result of the pernicious teaching of her professors and philosophers during the last two decades, and of the military and naval ambitions which were fostered by her rulers (!); the present Armageddon was the climax.

Beyond all this, and as an argument which more particularly affects the welfare of Hongkong, I have no hesitation in saying that the results of the German liquidations have abundantly proved that we are better without the Germans in trade, and that the vast business they created to our disadvantage was the result of a most pernicious credit system which did infinite harm to the Colony and which, when the Germans were interned, left an aftermath of evil in the shape of huge accumulations of stocks, which the market could not possibly digest and which took months of weary efforts to disperse, whilst British trade languished in proportion and is still doing so.

With the internment of our enemies, the trade of the port, by common consent, and thanks to the energy of the Chamber of Commerce, was once more placed upon a cash basis. I will not weary you with concrete examples, but I say, unhesitatingly and without fear of contradiction, that the trade of the Colony is to-day in a healthier state than for years past, and in the name of British trade interests I plead with you that Germans shall not be allowed to return to the Colony for at least ten years to recommence their "Prussian tactics" in trade which did the Colony so much injury in the past.

Further, I cannot help feeling that we have delayed too long in giving China a lead in this connection, and that a bold declaration of our views may strengthen her own and inspire her to join the Allies wholeheartedly in declaring war upon the enemies of progress and induce her to intern or banish those within her boundaries; the more so when she recalls the fact that this same Prussian spirit unblushingly reveals itself in the Kaiser's instructions to his troops during the Boxer Rebellion "to show no quarter and to teach the Chinese the might of Germany's military fist and never to look askance at a German," and which is commemorated by the "Ketteler memorial" in Peking.

In conclusion, and lest it be urged that we have overlooked possible German competition from new centres to the detriment of Hongkong, let it be said that, while we recognize such competition may arise, we are convinced it can be successfully met and are prepared to face it, especially when it is remembered that German firms are unlikely for years to come to receive the great assistance they did from British banks and discount houses in London in pre-war days and, I hope, will never do again.

Finally, I would remind you that the views I have endeavoured, however incompetently, to set forth are unitedly shared and endorsed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, which, at a recent meeting specially convened to consider the whole matter, unanimously adopted the identical motion on which I am now addressing you. The composition of this Committee is so well known to your Excellency and this Council that I am certain its carefully considered opinion will not fail to carry the weight it deserves with the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Hon. Mr. C. E. ANTON—Sir, I beg to second the motion. The proposer of the motion has gone so very largely over the ground that I think it is not necessary for me to go into details, which would only cause repetition. But I am in accord, fully in accord, with the motion's contention; the desirability of excluding Germans for a period of years from this Colony. It has been said, and rightly said, that we are not warring against the German people, and at the beginning of the war there was an element of truth in that, Sir. But I think it can be said that from the beginning the entire German nation has been warring against us and our Allies. And if they had been successful in their worldwide designs I am sure that if they had accomplished their ends—the rest of the world would have had very little consideration and sympathy from our enemies. Now it is reported that some sections of the people in Germany are blaming their rulers for the position they have got themselves into. But, after all, Sir, I think that the people are responsible for the Governors, and I think, that being so, we must hold the people of Germany responsible for all their atrocities and the violation of all laws, human and divine, which have been carried out. We cannot really, I think, exclude them from responsibility. As regards the commercial side, we have heard it argued that the Germans should be excluded from the Colony, and there is something to be said for that, though I think it will not carry very much weight. We must look, I think, to the sentimental side of the position which, to a large extent, governs such things throughout the world. And we must act, I think, on principles of humanity, righteousness and justice. Another point I ought to make, and that is in connection with the men who have gone home to fight, many of them, alas! who have made the last sacrifice. We hope that a large number of them will return, and what do we think these men would think, these men when they come back, if they find the Germans established here in the same old way? The thought to me would be intolerable, as I think it would be to them.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK—Sir, I submit that this resolution ought to be accepted by the Government, supported, as it is, by the expert opinion of the business-men composing the Committee of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce. On such a matter as this the opinion of such a body is entitled to the greatest possible weight. It is sought by this motion to pass on that opinion to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Surely that is a very proper course for this Council to adopt. I would even go so far as to say that it is the positive duty of this Council to pass on this opinion of business-men to the Secretary of State, seeing that that official is the representative of the Crown Colonies upon the Imperial Committee which is sitting to consider post-war trade problems. Surely this Colony, through its Council, must have the right to instruct its own representative. Surely, we are not going to be told that either the Constitution of this Colony or instructions from the Secretary of State forbid the passing of such a resolution as this. Then what other argument can be advanced for not according to this motion? Are we to be told that this motion cannot be accepted on the plea that it will embarrass the Home Government? Such a plea would, I submit, be absolutely unsound, for the reason that this resolution involves no conflict whatever between this Council and the Home Authorities. We are simply asking for leave to lay the views of this Colony, this important outpost of Empire in the Far East, before the Home Authorities. Are we to be refused such leave? Sir, I have considered this resolution, and the possible grounds of Government objection to it, from every point of view, and I have been finally forced to one conclusion, namely, that, if the Government refuses to vote for this motion, it can do so logically and constitutionally on one single ground only, namely, on the ground that it does not agree with this resolution. Now, as I have already urged, the opinion of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce ought to be conclusive with the Government upon the mercantile aspect of this question. Therefore, as a mere matter of cold business, there can be no doubt that this motion ought to be accepted by the Government. But, Sir, this resolution has something more behind it than mere dollars and cents. We are fighting the cause of civilization against barbarism. At a recent meeting at the Aldwych Club, Sir Edward Carson, the First Lord of the Admiralty, said:—"We have to deal with an enemy who has set at naught all the humanities which, as the result of centuries, have been embodied in our International Law." That is the opinion of a very eminent lawyer, and, when we consider the nature of some of those breaches of law such as the indiscriminate submarine warfare of passenger and hospital ships, and the wholesale sowing of the seas with floating mines, and when we also consider the brutal treatment meted out to our prisoners-of-war, by German women as well as by German men, we must surely refuse a welcome back to our shores to people of German nationality—people who are not only brutal to the living but even desecrate the remains of the dead. Sir, my honourable friend has pointed out that the Dominions are at one with us in their sentiments upon this subject, and I would add that Great Britain is equally at one with us, for, at a recent meeting in London, Sir Algernon Firth, the President of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, said:—"Of this I am certain: that the people of this country will never again stand German intrigue and German spying and German monopoly and dishonest trading, such as have been tolerated for the last 30 or 35 years in this country. Let the Government back us up, and we will show that British producers are the best in the world." Sir, that is what we are asking for now. We are asking the Government to "back us up."

[The text continues with further discussion and commentary, but is partially cut off at the bottom of the page.]

Hon. Mr. LAU CHU PAK—Sir, while sympathising with the object of the resolution, I am afraid I cannot support it in toto for reasons I am going to give. At the outset I would like to say that if I were to consult my own inclinations and wishes I would ask for the Germans to be excluded not only for ten years but for ever and a day, for I have large interests in companies recently and expressly formed to secure a big share of the business formerly in the hands of the Germans. But the resolution, Sir, is based on higher motives and on different grounds, and it is precisely on the same grounds that I have reluctance in taking up the position I am taking. After listening to what my hon. colleagues opposite have said I am still not certain that if the suggested measure were enforced it would be in the best interests of the Colony. It may be so and it may not be, for no one can tell for certain what will happen in the next ten years or so. At any rate, we have to bear in mind the surrounding countries. Unless these countries fall into line with us the advantage aimed at by the resolution would be nullified. However successfully we might be in keeping the Germans out of this Colony it will be nothing without the co-operation of these surrounding countries to prevent the Germans from competing with us close to our doors. Again, Sir, it should be borne in mind that if the measure were to be adopted it would have to be applied to every part of the Empire. In my opinion it is an Imperial question and one that might well be left in the hands of the Imperial Government, strengthened by representatives from the Dominions and from India. The Imperial Government might be trusted to arrive at a conclusion in the highest interests of the Empire. It is, however, Sir, with due deference and a proper sense of responsibility that I would suggest that the resolution be allowed to stand over. In conclusion, Sir, I might add that in my sympathy with that part of the resolution which suggests the placing of Germans under strict licence.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK—Sir, I beg to support all that has been said by my colleague. I shall vote against the resolution.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I do not propose, Sir, to add as myself to the motion generally, but would like to say a few words on two points. The hon. member who proposed the resolution supported it on two grounds. The first ground was one of sentiment. In sentiment I think we are all at one with him, and our inclinations are bound in the same direction as his. But the great difficulty in such a matter is as to how and when and where this sentiment should be expressed. Sentiment is a very poor guide amongst the cold hard facts of the world. Lord Cromer was perhaps one of the best statesmen and administrators of the British Empire in recent years, and on the broad question of trade after the war, just before his death (it was perhaps the last judgment he gave before his death), he expressed the opinion that if an economic war with Germany after this war were based on revenge it would be a pernicious and a fallacious policy. Now, Sir, an opinion like that from such an able statesman as Lord Cromer ought to make us pause before embarking on a policy which is based merely on sentiment. But what I want chiefly to refer to is the other ground put forward by the hon. member, and that is, the economic argument, that Germans should be excluded from the Colony for ten years after the war, because they introduced here unsound commercial methods. One must accept, of course, the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce that a cash basis for the trade of this Colony is the most advantageous for the British merchants here. No doubt they are the best judges of that themselves. But one cannot help remembering that credit is an inducement to commerce all over the world, and that trade lives by credit, and I do not see how, after the war, the Germans return to neighbouring ports, as I suppose they will, how we are to prevent a credit and energetic enterprise amongst the merchants, who wish to build up business on this policy, introducing that system into this Colony by means of agents or intermediaries. It is even contended among exporters and importers that such a system as the credit system could not be maintained. In other words Sir, I think that the policy proposed will not be efficacious in effecting the end for which it is proposed. That is the answer to the economic argument. As I said before, if we are asked to embark on this policy more because we want to act in accordance with the natural and just sentiments, then I say we are asked to enter an unknown country with a blind leader as guide.

H.E. THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING—I have listened very attentively to what has been said by the proposer of this motion and other speakers, and although I sympathise with their sentiments, yet I fully agree with what has fallen from the Attorney-General. I think that the great Imperial question cannot be over-looked. The aim and object of every war is a lasting peace, and this motion is quite contrary to that idea of a lasting peace, and therefore I am freely following my own convictions in voting against it.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, as the Attorney-General has pointed out, the supporters of this resolution support it on two grounds. One of them may be summed up in the one word "retaliation." The other is on economic grounds. Now, in my humble opinion it is far too early to talk about retaliation. Of one thing I myself am firmly convinced, and that is, that the English people, who are distinguished above all things for their love of justice, will never sheathe the sword, nor will their Allies sheathe the sword, until the crimes which have been committed by the German army in this war are thoroughly expiated. I feel confident that the persons who ordered these crimes will be brought to punishment. I am quite sure that the blood of the massacred passengers of the *Lusitania*, and worse than that, the blood of Miss Cavell, and even worse than that, the

most foul case of all—the blood of the murdered Captain Fryatt, will not call for justice in vain. We may well leave that to those who will have the terms of peace in their consideration. On the other question, the question of economics, I confess I expected to hear a far greater indictment against the German merchants and their methods than the indictment that has been put forward. It is mainly that they followed a credit system. Well, the Attorney-General has answered that as far as it is necessary to answer it. I would only remark, in answer to the contention of the hon. member who represents the Justices of the Peace that the official side of this Council ought to accept the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce on that subject, that the support given to that part of the argument by the representative of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. was exceedingly weak. He said that it did not carry much weight, and he based his argument principally upon the vindication of humanity and justice. And what of our large Chinese commercial community? They happen to own four-fifths of the wealth of this Colony, and to pay 97 per cent. of the rates and taxes. Why, we have them both voting against the resolution. Therefore, since the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce is the only commercial man left, the economic side of the argument finds support in one member only. I admit he is a redoubtable member. He represents the Chamber of Commerce.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—Do I understand you to say, Sir, that I am not a commercial man?

HIS EXCELLENCY—I certainly did not say that. I said you carried out doubt weight.

HIS EXCELLENCY then proceeded—Pursuing the argument as to economics for one moment. I have been connected with the Government for 36 years, and I have been connected with Council for 30 years. If, like Father Aeneas, I could find Charon to ferry me across the river Styx, and visit the shades of the dead, and be able to have speech with some of the really big men of the past, whom Hongkong has produced—William Jackson, and Thomas Jackson—and communicate this resolution to them, excluding as it does the entry into this port of German ships, well, in the words of a popular song which was sung recently by a very proper figure of a young man, "they would never believe me." Or, if I could take the wings of an eagle and soar over to England and whisper in the ears of Thomas Henderson, Whitehead, Edward Osborne, Murray Stewart, C. H. Ross, or O. W. Dickson, some of those hard-headed and sound men of former days, and tell them that it was proposed lightly to exclude German tonnage from this harbour, well, again I am sure, they "would never believe me." Gentlemen, if the policy of the Chamber of Commerce for the last 36 years—I will not go further back—has been right, then the Chamber of Commerce to-day is wrong. Their watchword during those years has been "shipping is the lifeblood of the Colony." I believe in that. And I believe, further, that another watchword which they preached—that the prosperity of this Colony depends upon the Colony remaining, as far as possible, a free port. I remember when there was an invasion of foreign banks into this Colony—the Russian bank, a Japanese bank and a German bank, and a Dutch bank—and someone said to Sir Thomas Jackson:—"There are a lot of these banks coming here, won't it interfere with your business?" His answer was—"Business makes banks, and the more banks in Hongkong the more the Hongkong bank will make." And his words have been justified by the event. Gentlemen, in this debate there have been some very wise words spoken by the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, one of the Chinese members. He has once more shown that in this crisis the Chinese community, who have rendered splendid service to this Government by offering personal services, and by giving us much money, have kept their heads. They have not lost them. He says, and he says truly, that the resolution should not be passed until you find out what the countries which surround us are going to do. There happen to be Russia, Japan, China herself, Indo-China, the Philippines, and I may even include Australia. It would be a nice thing—would it not—to find Hongkong isolated among the surrounding and competing ports of these countries. It would advantage her nothing, absolutely nothing. "It has been said that the Dominions have expressed opinions in unison with this resolution. I do not quite know what is meant thereby, because I read my papers and Parliamentary papers very carefully, and I have not yet seen any suggestion from anywhere that Germans should actually be excluded from the King's Dominions after the war. The hon. member who represents the Justices of the Peace made a strong point that the Government should not reject this resolution on the ground that it was an Imperial concern and did not concern us. He also expressed the strong opinion that we ought to accept the resolution because it was endorsed by the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce. There are two Chambers of Commerce in the Colony. I have dealt with the latter part of the question already. With regard to the first part I would say that we have no intention of escaping the responsibility of not accepting this resolution because it deals with an Imperial matter. We are convinced—all the officials at this table—that the proposal contained in the resolution is not in the interests of the Colony. The Chinese community are not in favour of the resolution, if we are to believe their representatives, and I have no doubt we can believe them. Therefore, our decision is that we cannot accept the resolution on its merits. In conclusion, I wish to say that I think the whole question has been summed up in a very terse and very statesmanlike manner by my gallant and hon. friend who sits on my right (the General Officer Commanding),

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—Sir, before replying to the arguments I would like to ask the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak if he has consulted the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in this matter.

Hon. Mr. LAU CHU PAK—There has not been opportunity of consulting the Chinese Chamber of Commerce on the matter. I have consulted many of my friends outside and have expressed their opinions.

Hon. Mr. HOLYOAK—In dealing briefly with the debate which has just taken place, I would like in the first place to present in the strongest possible manner the studied insult to the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. We now know exactly where we are. There is no longer any really big man in Hongkong. That covers a variety of firms whose interests cover millions and millions of dollars. And I am astounded that the Governor of the Colony should give utterance to such words. That being so, and that being the attitude which is being adopted towards the Chamber of Commerce, I will proceed to deal with the more or less weak arguments of the Government side. With reference to the past, the giants of commerce, whose shades have passed beyond the grave. They never had to deal with such problems as face us to-day in the world-wide war, a war which has been waged under conditions the like of which they never saw or which have never been dreamed of, if that could be possible. And I think, in the light of these studies, and I say so advisedly, these studied atrocities which have been perpetrated by the Germans in this war, and of which we have not yet reached the end of, we are entitled to say that these are conditions which are new to the world and which must be faced anew. And I cannot believe that any man gathered around this table can face calmly the possibility of sitting, within two years from now, next to a German in any public building or in any joint interest in this Colony. I have been said that what is advocated is a policy of retaliation. I do not call it retaliation. I call it just punishment, and there is a wide and vast difference between the two words. It has been said that there will be no advantage if this resolution is carried out, and that no lasting peace will be assured. I cannot conceive a condition of peace within this Colony if any Germans are admitted within its domains within the next two years. Personally I should be the first to break the peace. Retaliation has been made to the punishment of the leaders who organised this war, and who have prepared for it for years, but no attempt has been made to rebut the argument made that this war is being waged by the German people, and the characteristics which have been displayed in the perpetration of the atrocities of this war are to be found in the national character of the people, man, woman and child, as I said before. And it will not be eradicated for a few years. Therefore we say that the war is a national one, and that we will not be contented with them if we can possibly avoid it. Accordingly I have avoided anything in moving the resolution which could be called exaggeration. One could talk with greater stress, and far greater freedom if one could let oneself free to exaggeration, and draw a picture of the conditions which the aftermath of this war will inevitably produce. But the whole basis of my resolution has been lost sight of in every argument advanced against it. I do not ask this Council to endorse a resolution pledging this Colony to legislation that for ten years after the war Germans shall be excluded from coming within our shores. What I ask for and plead for is that we shall pass this resolution and send it home to the Home Government as an expression of the Colony's opinion, an expression of opinion coming from the commercial heart of the Colony, the studied opinion of those men who, by their position, are able to judge what is best for the Colony's interests. With regard to the remarks which have fallen from my hon. Chinese colleague, I would point out that this resolution has been on paper for a fortnight, which gave ample time for him to consult with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce if he had desired to do so. Apparently he did not. I have also consulted many Chinese in connection with this matter, and many Chinese merchants have told me frankly that they did not desire the German trade to return to the Colony; they very much deprecated such trade and the system which had been adopted in the past. I was astounded to hear such words fall from the lips of the Attorney-General that there were some virtues in the credit system. There is a virtue in the credit system, provided it is under control, but, speaking from experience, and from a deep knowledge of the subject, I say that the credit system practised by the Germans, which was not controlled, was positively immoral. The British banks who helped them to use that credit realised it to-day. I know perfectly well that there is a section of the Chinese community which lived and had its roots so to speak, from the onerous system which the Germans adopted in this Colony, and who have excluded for that reason the wider question embodied in my resolution. They remember that it was their living in the past. But there are wider questions than that for the Colony, and therefore contained in my resolution. That resolution has been carefully considered by the Chamber of Commerce, and we are of the opinion that what it involves is in the best interests of the Colony, so I leave it with you.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

The report of the directors up to December 31st last, for presentation to the shareholders at the forty-eighth ordinary meeting on the 26th instant, states:—

1915 Account.—This account shows a net profit on working of \$369,547.65, which sum it is proposed to apportion as follows:—
Dividend of 7% and bonus of 2% per share on 20,000 shares ... \$180,000.00
To add to reserve fund ... 100,000.00
To carry forward to underwriting suspense account ... 89,547.65
\$369,547.65

1916 Account.—The balance at credit of this account is \$785,534.05

Directors.—Since the last general meeting Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar has resigned his seat on leaving the Colony, and Mr. A. O. Lang of Messrs. Harry Wicking & Co., and Mr. A. O. Lang, of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., have joined the Board.

Mr. S. H. Dodwell and Mr. J. A. Plummer retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

FRENCH RELIEF FUND.

FOR THE HOMELESS IN NORTHERN FRANCE.

SIXTH LIST.	
Sir Robert Ho Tung	500.00
Wing Fat Hong and Chan	200.00
Pek Chun	100.00
R. de Souza	100.00
H. M. N. Nemaze	100.00
W. D. Kraft	100.00
Gerin Drevard	100.00
Mme. and Mlle. Jessula	100.00
E. M. French	50.00
Ho Wing	50.00
Frank Smith	50.00
Layton & Co.	50.00
P. F. Ansett	25.00
P. F. Van Gennep Luhrs	20.00
William Sinclair	10.00
Mme. Brotherton Barker	10.00
F. A. Perry	10.00
W. E. F.	10.00
Previous Lists	10,289.70
Total	\$11,789.70

LATIN AND GREEK JOBS.

CIVIL SERVICE BAR TO NEWER UNIVERSITIES.

Discussing the statement that posts in the first-class Civil Service, which usually supplies the permanent Government officials, are nearly all filled by men whose main qualifications are a knowledge of Latin and Greek, Professor J. Wertheimer, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Bristol University, writes:—"Defenders of the system point out that in 1913 the first and third places and in 1914 the second place in the examination were gained by science students. But of the 16 vacancies filled in 1913, 12 were won by men who took Latin and Greek and Roman history."

"Students of anything but Latin and Greek have a comparatively small chance of success, the result being that the country is largely governed by men who have little knowledge of scientific method and are often unwilling to accept scientific advice."

"Another result is to close higher Civil Service posts to anybody not educated at Oxford or Cambridge. Of 40 first-class clerks chosen in 1913 and 1914, 25 were Oxford men, 10 Cambridge, 1 London University, 1 from a Scottish university, and 2 from Irish universities. None came from all the provincial universities in England and Wales combined."

Against the resolution.—Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Hon. Mr. Pollock, Hon. Mr. Anton and Hon. Mr. Shellim.

The resolution was then declared lost by nine votes to four.

This was all the business.

COMPANY REPORTS.

UNION INSURANCE OF CANTON, LIMITED.

The report of the directors to December 31st last, for presentation to the shareholders at the forty-fourth ordinary meeting to be held on the 26th instant, is as follows:—

1915 Account.—After payment of the interim dividend of \$30 per share and the bonus of 20 per cent. to contributors passed at the last annual meeting, there remains a balance of \$3,066,542.36, as per annexed statement.

The Board recommends that this sum be appropriated as follows:—

A final dividend to shareholders of \$30 per share on 15,438 shares	\$ 308,760.00
A bonus dividend to shareholders of \$10 per share on 15,438 shares	154,380.00
An addition to the reinsurance fund of \$100,000 at exchange 2/4	834,782.62
To building reserve fund \$10,000 at exchange 2/4	83,478.26
To be carried forward to underwriting suspense account to close the account for the year 1915	1,685,141.48
	\$3,066,542.36

1916 Account.—The balance of working account on the 31st December, 1916, was \$5,125,845.56, as per annexed statement.

The Board recommends that an interim dividend of \$30 per share be paid to shareholders, absorbing \$463,140.00, and that a bonus of 20 per cent. be paid to contributors, absorbing about \$250,000.00, and that the remainder be carried forward.

Directors.—Since the last general meeting Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar has resigned his seat on leaving the Colony, and Mr. A. O. Lang of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., has joined the Board.

In accordance with Clause 80 of the Articles of Association, Mr. S. H. Dodwell and Mr. J. A. Plummer retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

The report of the directors up to December 31st last, for presentation to the shareholders at the forty-eighth ordinary meeting on the 26th instant, states:—

1915 Account.—This account shows a net profit on working of \$369,547.65, which sum it is proposed to apportion as follows:—
Dividend of 7% and bonus of 2% per share on 20,000 shares ... \$180,000.00
To add to reserve fund ... 100,000.00
To carry forward to underwriting suspense account ... 89,547.65
\$369,547.65

1916 Account.—The balance at credit of this account is \$785,534.05

Directors.—Since the last general meeting Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar has resigned his seat on leaving the Colony, and Mr. A. O. Lang of Messrs. Harry Wicking & Co., and Mr. A. O. Lang, of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., have joined the Board.

Mr. S. H. Dodwell and Mr. J. A. Plummer retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

FRENCH RELIEF FUND.

FOR THE HOMELESS IN NORTHERN FRANCE.

SIXTH LIST.	
Sir Robert Ho Tung	500.00
Wing Fat Hong and Chan	200.00
Pek Chun	100.00
R. de Souza	100.00
H. M. N. Nemaze	100.00
W. D. Kraft	100.00
Gerin Drevard	100.00
Mme. and Mlle. Jessula	100.00
E. M. French	50.00
Ho Wing	50.00
Frank Smith	50.00
Layton & Co.	50.00
P. F. Ansett	25.00
P. F. Van Gennep Luhrs	20.00
William Sinclair	10.00
Mme. Brotherton Barker	10.00
F. A. Perry	10.00
W. E. F.	10.00
Previous Lists	10,289.70
Total	\$11,789.70

LATIN AND GREEK JOBS.

CIVIL SERVICE BAR TO NEWER UNIVERSITIES.

Discussing the statement that posts in the first-class Civil Service, which usually supplies the permanent Government officials, are nearly all filled by men whose main qualifications are a knowledge of Latin and Greek, Professor J. Wertheimer, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Bristol University, writes:—"Defenders of the system point out that in 1913 the first and third places and in 1914 the second place in the examination were gained by science students. But of the 16 vacancies filled in 1913, 12 were won by men who took Latin and Greek and Roman history."

"Students of anything but Latin and Greek have a comparatively small chance of success, the result being that the country is largely governed by men who have little knowledge of scientific method and are often unwilling to accept scientific advice."

"Another result is to close higher Civil Service posts to anybody not educated at Oxford or Cambridge. Of 40 first-class clerks chosen in 1913 and 1914, 25 were Oxford men, 10 Cambridge, 1 London University, 1 from a Scottish university, and 2 from Irish universities. None came from all the provincial universities in England and Wales combined."

Against the resolution.—Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Hon. Mr. Pollock, Hon. Mr. Anton and Hon. Mr. Shellim.

The resolution was then declared lost by nine votes to four.

This was all the business.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

TELEPHONE 1741

GENTLEMEN'S SHIRTS

THE FABRIC

is Best Zephyr, light in weight, strong in texture.

THE DESIGNS

are the newest effects in Shirtings and Comprise a variety of Neat Stripes in all colours. The Dye is the best obtainable.

THE FINISH

is the best, while the shape is fully fashioned by expert London Shirtmakers.

THE PRICE:

WITH SOFT DOUBLE CUFFS \$3.00 Each

6 For \$16.50

THE "CRAWFORD"

DOUBLE COLLARS

IN 1½, 1¾, 2, 2¼, 2½ INCHES DEEP.

ALL SIZES \$4.50 PER DOZ.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

"BULL DOG" LAGER BEER.

SUPERIOR TO ANY GERMAN LAGER BEER EVER BREWED. BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

Brewed in Great Britain.

Bottled by British Labour.

OBTAINABLE AT:—

PRICES DUTY PAID.

Wing On Co., Ltd.

QUARTS—\$20.00 per case

Sincere Co., Ltd.

of 4 dozen.

Sun Co., Ltd.

or \$5.10 per Dozen.

Cheong Tai.

Nam Hing Loong.

Ty Sing.

Sang Tai.

Kwan Tye.

of 8 dozen.

or \$3.40 per dozen.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Obtainable in Canton from

SINCERE Co., LTD.

Stocked by

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

FRESH STOCKS JUST ARRIVED.

[467-2]

Wm. Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

BABY CARS

PERAMBULATORS

MAIL-CARTS

FOLDING-CARS

NEW STOCKS

INSPECTION INVITED.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.
MONDAY NEXT, APRIL 23rd.
WET OR FINE.

FANCY FETE AND
CAFE CHANTANT,
AT
VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS
(Specially covered in, and brilliantly lit by electricity.)

Continuous Performance from 3.30 P.M. to 6 P.M.

CAFE CHANTANT

IN

DRILL HALL.
MOVING PICTURES, JUGGLERS,
ACROBATS, SINGERS, INSTRUMENT-
TALISTS, VENTRILOQUISTS,
ELOCUTIONISTS, Etc.

WORDS AND SPACE preclude giving full and STARTLING DETAILS of the magnificent assembly of TALENT, WIT, MUSIC, and "SPENDENT SPECTACULAR."

SEE the MENAGERIE and SIGNOR TOBOLSKI.

FEED the ELEPHANT.

HEAR the VENTRILOQUIST—PROF. "VOCAL," D.A.M.L.I.A.

LISTEN to the "MUSICAL TRAMPS."

and

DON'T FORGET the "MOVING PICTURES."

Entrance Fees:

To CAFE CHANTANT (including Tea):

Adults... \$3. Children... \$1.

To SIDE SHOWS:

Adults... \$1. Children... 50c.

For FULL PARTICULARS see Official Programme to be had on the Premises for a mere Medium.

A WELCOME FOR ALL and their Money.

NOTICE

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Business of the International Commercial Trading Company in this Colony has been transferred and taken over by THE INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL TRADING COMPANY, INCORPORATED, OF CALIFORNIA, in the United States of America.

The business of the Corporation will be carried on by Mr. JAMES D. COURTNEY as Attorney for the Corporation.

Dated the 14th April, 1917.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL TRADING COMPANY.

Post Office Buildings. [543]

TO LET

NO. 25, DES VUEX ROAD CENTRAL,

1st Floor (above the Dragon Garage), suitable for Offices, &c.

Apply to—

ALEX. ROSS & Co.,

No. 4, Des Vaux Road Central. [544]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY,

the 24th and 25th April, 1917, commencing each day at 11 A.M. (and continuing in the afternoon), at his Sales Rooms,

Dundell Street,

A LARGE QUANTITY OF

BLACK AND BROWN

BOOTS AND SHOES,

Patent Leather Dress Boots, Buckskin Boots and Shoes, Rope Sole Shoes, Fine Quality Coloured Linen Soft Shirts, White Woolen Suspenders, Woolen Vests, American Linen Under Suits, Bath Gowns, Bathing Suits and Drawers, Silk and Lisle Socks, Silk Ties, Sun Hats, Straw Hats, Silk Mullers, Lady's and Gent's Raincoats.

A Quantity of REAL PANAMA HATS.

On view from TUESDAY, the 24th inst. Catalogues will be issued.

Terms—Cash.

GEO. P. LAMBERT,

Auctioneer. [545]

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

MONDAY, APRIL 23rd, 1917.

DISTRIBUTION OF BADGES, Etc.

WITH reference to the Circular Letter sent out by the Ladies' Committee, will Ladies in charge of Centres kindly note that for the Convenience of those desirous of attending the Gymkhana to be held at Happy Valley on the afternoon of SATURDAY, the 24th inst., TRAYS, TINS and BADGES will be distributed at the CITY HALL on SATURDAY, between 12 and 1 P.M.

The Distribution will be continued in the afternoon between the hours of 2.30 and 5 P.M.

On MONDAY, APRIL 23rd, the Centre Depot has been changed from the City Hall to the HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB PAVILION (kindly lent by the Committee of the HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB). It is therefore requested that all Tins be handed in at the CRICKET CLUB PAVILION and not as previously advised at the City Hall.

The distribution of TINS, TRAYS and BADGES, etc., on SATURDAY next, will take place at the CITY HALL.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

THE EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of EXCHANGE BUSINESS on MONDAY, the 23rd instant, at 1 P.M.

Hongkong, 18th April, 1917. [546]

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE will be CLOSED on MONDAY, 23rd April 1917, at 1 P.M. ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

By Order,

R. HANCOCK,

Secretary. [547]

INTIMATIONS

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

APRIL 23rd, 1917.

FAST SAILING MODEL

YACHT,

27 inches in length,

Automatic Steering Gear.

TO BE RAFFLED.

TICKETS... \$1.

To be obtained from the Ladies.

On view at THOS. COOK & SON'S Office.

Made and kindly presented by Lieut. Pooler, R.N.R. [529]

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

THE FIRST GYMKHANA MEETING

of the Season will be held at HAPPY VALLEY, TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), the 24th April, 1917, commencing at 3 P.M.

The Charge of Admission will be \$1 for others than Members of the HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB or GYMKHANA CLUB.

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform free.

The Committee invite the Ladies of Hongkong to be present. [533]

G. R.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Government are prepared to LET as OFFICE to suitable tenant Room No. 5 on the Top Floor of the Post Office Building (New Government Office) in Pedder Street on yearly tenancy.

Further particulars and conditions of letting may be obtained on application at the Office of the Director of Public Works.

CLAUDE SEVERN, Colonial Secretary.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1917. [514]

TO LET IN KOWLOON.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

A FULLY FURNISHED up-to-date FLAT. Every modern convenience.

Apply

FLAT,

Care of "Daily Press" Office. [534]

TO LET.

NO. 2, STEWART TERRACE, PEAK.

Furnished.

Apply to—

H. E. POLLOCK,

Prince's Buildings. [517]

TO LET.

OFFICES to Let.

Apply—

Box No. 14,

Care of "Daily Press" Office. [515]

TO LET.

NO. 3, A & B. ROBINSON ROAD.

Apply to—

DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd. [473]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry, Four very desirable

SHOPS situated in Joe House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to—

THE MANAGER,

HONGKONG ICE CO., Ltd.,

46, Connaught Road Central. [401]

TO LET.

NEW HOUSE in Conduit Road. Ready

for occupation. Also 1 GODOWN in Dundell Street.

For rent and other particulars apply to—

H. M. H. NEMAZEE,

1 Des Vaux Road. [402]

TO LET.

FOUR ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon

Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

A FLAT in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48 with

wharf area 58,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal

Storage or erection of Godowns.

Apply to—

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE

Co., Ltd.,

Alexandra Buildings. [291]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST

MENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd. [28]

TO LET.

NO. 3, CAMERON VILLAS, No. 63, THE

PEAK, FURNISHED.

For Summer Months. No. 61, PEAK (Six

Rooms House) Furnished.

No. 2, "FAIRVIEW," 3, Nathan Road,

Kowloon.

8-ROOMED HOUSE at Mount Kellett.

Furnished for 5 or 6 months.

No. 12, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE

SHOP.

KELLET'S GUEST, 66, PEAK

No. 27, BELLIMOS TERRACE, with

entrance on Conduit Road.

TWO GODOWNS in Dundell Street.

No. 2, DES VUEX VILLAS, 61, PEAK

(Unfurnished).

Apply to—

LINSTEAD & DAVIS.

3rd Floor, Alexandra Buildings. [30]

PUBLIC COMPANIES

HONGKONG TRAMWAY COMPANY, LIMITED

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

of the HONGKONG TRAMWAY COM-

PANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Office

of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,

24th April, 1917, at 12 o'clock Noon,

to transact the ordinary business of the

Company.

By Order of the Board,

W. E. ROBERTS,

Secretary. [539]

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1917.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF

CANTON, LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY

YEARLY MEETING of the Society will be

held at its Head Office, No. 4, Queen's

Buildings, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the

24th April, 1917, at 12.30 P.M., for the purpose

of receiving the Report of the Directors together

with the Statements of Account to 31st December, 1916,

and of declaring Dividends, &c.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Society

will be CLOSED from 16th April, to 26th

April, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

C. MONTAGUE EDE,

General Manager. [516]

Hongkong, 14th April, 1917.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

FIFTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY

YEARLY MEETING of the Company will be

held at its Head Office, No. 4, Queen's

Buildings, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the

24th April, 1917, at 12.30 P.M., for the purpose

of receiving the Report of the Directors together

with the Statements of Account to 31st December, 1916,

and of declaring Dividends, &c.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company

will be CLOSED from 16th April to 26th

April, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

C. MONTAGUE EDE,

General Manager. [518]

Hongkong, 14th April, 1917.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY

MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

will be held at the Office of the Undersigned

on THURSDAY, the 3rd May, 1917, at Noon.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company

will be CLOSED from the 18th instant to the

3rd May, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,

General Agents. [523]

Hongkong, 16th April, 1917.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO.,

LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

TWENTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY

GENERAL MEETING will be held at the

Company's Office, St. George's Buildings, on

SATURDAY, the 5th May, 1917, at 12 o'clock

Noon, for the purpose of presenting the Report

of the Directors together with a Statement

of Accounts to 28th February, 1917, and electing

Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company

will be CLOSED from the 21st April to the

5th May, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Agents. [532]

Hongkong, 17th April, 1917.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI

BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that

Certificate No. 5/NSB, 1886 dated

Hongkong 21st February, 1912, for Three

Shares numbered 67889, 14321, and 89965

registered in the name of Mrs. MARIA NAZ

NEVES RIBEIRO has been LOST or STOLEN,

and should this Certificate not be produced to

the Bank before the 11th day of May, 1917,

a New Certificate for the shares will be issued,

and the aforesaid Certificate No. 5/NSB 1886

will thereafter be treated by this Corporation

as Null and Void.

By Order of the Court of Directors,

</

THE WAR.

ALLIES' GREAT OFFENSIVE.

BRILLIANT FRENCH SUCCESSES.

BRITAIN AND AMERICA'S WAR ENTRY.

ANTI-GERMAN RIOTS IN BRAZIL.

Franco-Belgian Front.
LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

FRENCH BRILLIANTLY SUCCESSFUL.

PARIS, April 19th.
A communiqué states:—South of St. Quentin, after the liveliest bombardment, the Germans attacked east of Guiche.

Their first attempt was stopped dead by our fire. The second was more violent than the first, and resulted in fractions of the enemy penetrating our advanced trenches, but these were all killed or captured, and by immediate counter-attack our line was completely restored. We vigorously continued the offensive at various points between Soissons and Auberive.

Despite the persistent bad weather in the west our attacking front was brilliantly successful.

North of Chavonne we captured the village of Ostel and drove the enemy a kilometre. Northwards we captured Bray-en-Laing and all the ground eastwards to the vicinity of Courtecon. Under a vigorous pressure of infantry and a murderous fire from our artillery the enemy fled in disorder, abandoning much material and his food depôts.

We captured 19 guns, including five howitzers. South of Laffaux our troops, covered by divisional cavalry, broke up the enemy and captured Nantuil-en-Fesse.

Finally, south of the Aisne, after a spirited attack, we captured the bridgehead between Conde and Vailly, and the whole of Vailly.

MANY PRISONERS.

An important unit was surrounded in the forest at Ville-au-Bois and they laid down their arms, totalling 1,300 prisoners and 180 mitrailleuses.

The Germans, at 4.30 in the afternoon, furiously counter-attacked with two divisions between Juvincourt and the Aisne.

Our batteries of machine-gun fire shattered the attack and inflicted sanguinary losses on the enemy, who was nowhere able to approach our lines.

East of Courcy the Russian Brigade crowned their successes by capturing a fortified work and taking prisoners.

We took 24 heavy and field guns in the whole of this region, and three 5-inch guns, each with 1,000 rounds of ammunition, which were immediately employed against the enemy.

We reduced several centres of resistance and captured strong points in Champagne, where 20 guns, including eight heavy guns, and 500 new prisoners were captured.

HUGE CAPTURES.

The number of unwounded prisoners sent back since the opening of the battle exceeds 17,000.

Seventy-five guns have so far been counted.

BRITISH GAIN GROUND.

LONDON, April 18th.

We gained ground at night-time on the left bank of the Scarpe, eastward of Fampoux, and captured this morning a further portion of the front-line system, south-eastward of Loos.

Our aeroplanes last night obtained hits on an enemy train, two columns of mechanical transport and transport park, with great damage in each case.

SMASHING A SALIENT.

LONDON, April 19th.

The successes mentioned in the French communiqué issued to-day were gained on the same front as the battle of the 16th inst. Thus the French are continuing their tactics of alternating blows. They yesterday smashed the salient south-west of Laon.

With the captures of Nantuil and Vailly they secured a footing on the great Laon-Craonne plateau, whose capture cost Napoleon a fifth of his effectives in 1814.

That the French to-day will attempt to frantically storm the plateau is not yet clear. They may prefer a turning movement between Berry-au-Bac and Rheims. The possession of Ville-au-Bois will give them elbow-room for their communications with Berry-au-Bac, which is an important junction of the roads and the canals.

The capture of Ostel shows that the French hold the 600-foot hill at Courde-Soupir, dominating Chavonne.

It is noteworthy that it was near Soupir that Field-Marshal Haig forced the passage of the Aisne in September, 1914.

The mention of Courcy shows that the Russians are pushing their encirclement of Brimont, mentioned yesterday morning.

GERMAN REPORT.

GERMANS ADMIT ENEMY GAIN.

LONDON, April 18th.

A German official report transmitted by wireless states:—A nocturnal attack brought the enemy a small gain in the territory near Bray, on the Aisne. A second French attack, after a failure this morning, is now in progress on both sides of Craonne. Fresh fights began in Champagne this afternoon.

EARLIER CABLES.

An official German report transmitted by wireless states:—The artillerying has again been intense in the sectors of the Arras battlefield.

We repulsed French attacks at Beaulieu Ridge, on the Craonne heights, and north-westwards of Stilleuxbois, near Ledogal and Courcy.

On the Aisne-Marne Canal we checked fresh attacks in Champagne, which were preceded by the strongest artillerying along twenty kilometres of the front.

Our counterattack regained portions of the wood between Moronvillers and Auberive.

We captured 500 prisoners during Monday's fighting.

We destroyed 28 armoured cars and brought down 18 aeroplanes.

Our prisoners now total 3,000.

BATTLE OF CHAMPAGNE.

LONDON, April 18th.

The extension of the French attack towards Champagne is recorded in the midnight communiqué.

It illustrates afresh that the new tactical method which has already been practised by the British at Arras, namely, the constant enlargement of the front as the attack progresses, with great strength on the wings, so that when the objective is reached there is no danger of the salient inviting outflanking. The method enables a better contact by the troops and facilitates artillerying.

SUCCESSES CHEERED IN PARIS.

The French initial successes in the greatest battle up to the present, in which it is estimated that two million troops were engaged, were cheered in Paris more than anything since the beginning of the war.

PREPARING GERMANY FOR BAD NEWS.

These successes have correspondingly depressed the Germans, as is evidenced by the remarkable wording of their communiqué, which obviously is preparing Germany for bad news.

GERMANS PREPARED FOR FRENCH OFFENSIVE.

The enormous weight of guns, the numbers of men collected by Hindenburg and the desperation of the German resistance show that the enemy was thoroughly prepared for the great French offensive, and as the country north of the Aisne, especially the Craonne plateau, is most difficult—full of hills, woods, and deep ravines—the extent of the French gains so early in the battle are most wonderful. Not merely the Crown Prince has been heavily defeated, but the advance of the French eastwards promises to release Rheims from its martyrdom, the latest phases of which have been most cruel.

The French are already at the foot of Brimont Hill, where the guns are posted which principally shelled the city.

The terrible artillery, machine gunning, and all kinds of pitfalls failed to check the Germans, who, hour after hour, attack the wire on the horizon and all round the village, whose defenders can be seen popping out their heads from underground fastnesses trying to gather how the battle is going, obviously unaware they are surrounded.

PROGRESS OF ALLIED OFFENSIVES.

The Anglo-French offensives are keeping step admirably, their pressure on a hundred miles of enemy front being shifted daily most skillfully, so that the Germans do not know where to send reserves. The enemy positions are falling easier than the Somme fortresses.

VILLAGE CAPTURED.

LONDON, April 18th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We made progress south-eastward and eastward of Epehy.

We captured Villers Guislain village. We improved our position at Lagnicourt.

It is raining.

GUNS CAPTURED.

LONDON, April 18th.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters states:—The British have captured 227 guns since April 9th.

The weather continues to be the most poisonous the oldest soldier can recall. Nevertheless, since yesterday we advanced between Gouzecourt and Villaret, and also pushed on south of Lagnicourt, the tower of which we have retaken.

BRILLIANT FRENCH ACTION.

PARIS, April 18th.

A communiqué states:—In the region south of St. Quentin, there has been very great mutual artillery activity. South of the Oise, east of the Lower Coucy forest, there have been numerous patrol engagements.

Between Soissons and Auberive, we carried out, during the night-time, operations of detail, securing us considerable advantages. To the west, a brilliant action gave us the village of Chivry. To the north-east of these places, we carried the whole ground as far as the approaches of Bray-en-Laing, into which our patrols penetrated, taking 250 prisoners.

In the sector of Ville aux Bois, which we have captured, we have taken several fortified works, and also woods to the east, capturing four hundred prisoners.

In Champagne, counter-attacks on our positions on both sides of Mont Cornille were stopped short by our fire, resulting in bloody enemy losses.

The artillery duel is violent on a great part of the attacking front. The enemy had withdrawn field artillery to the rear. Nevertheless we captured twelve guns, including three heavy guns, and a considerable quantity of machine-guns and numerous trench guns.

Since April 16th, we have captured 14,000 prisoners.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RELIEF SHIPS SUNK.

PARIS, April 19th.

Four Belgian Relief ships provided with safe-conducts were recently sunk outside the danger-zone, near the Dutch coast.

The French Government has asked the King of Spain to intervene at Berlin.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH AND ITALIAN SHIPPING.

LONDON, April 18th.

The Admiralty announces that the arrivals during the week numbered 2,379, and the departures 2,331. Of those sunk 19 were over and nine under 1,600 tons. Fifteen were unsuccessfully attacked, and 12 fishing boats were sunk.

An Italian Naval communiqué states that during the week ending 15th April 454 ships arrived and 419 left Italy. Five Italian ships under 3,500 tons were sunk, and two sailing ships under 100 tons were also sunk.

The Balkans.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

FIGHTING NEAR MONASTIR.

LONDON, April 18th.

A German official report transmitted by wireless states:—Westward of Monastir we drove out the French from positions on a one kilometre front.

We repulsed a counterattack and captured 200 prisoners.

RUMANIAN CAMPAIGN.

GERMAN WITHDRAWAL.

LONDON, April 18th.

It is reported from Jassy that the Germans have burnt Brasila and Focșani. The Roumanian military authorities consider this as symptomatic of an early German withdrawal.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AUSTRIAN FRONT.

OPERATIONS AT A STANDSTILL.

BERNE, April 19th.

It is reported from Vienna that the operations on the Austrian front are at a complete standstill.

JAPAN AND COMMERCIAL PREPAREDNESS.

LONDON, April 19th.

The Japanese Ambassador and the Japanese delegates en route to the Allied Commercial Conference at Rome were guests at a luncheon in the House of Commons.

The Ambassador dwelt on the possibility of a war in commerce after the war. It was high time for the Allies to take steps to protect themselves against such an eventuality. He said that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance was stronger than ever. It was Japan's mission to maintain peace and preserve order in the Far East. He congratulated Great Britain upon her victories on the Western Front, which herald greater things to come.

GERMAN GOVERNOR OF BELGIUM DEAD.

AMSTERDAM, April 19th.

A message from Brussels announces the death of General von Bissing, the German Governor of Belgium.

EARLIER CABLES.

NO MORE PASTRY.

SUGARLESS SCONES.

LONDON, April 18th.

Under Lord Devonport's order light pastries, muffins, crumpets, tea cakes, and ornamental cakes are prohibited.

Buns and scones will contain only 50 per cent. wheaten flour; cakes, 30; biscuits, allowed 15 per cent. sugar; and buns and tea scones must be without sugar.

PEACE URGED IN GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, April 18th.

The *Vorwaerts* declares that the Berlin strikers, who have resumed work, want more bread and political reforms, and especially peace. The journal urges the Government to act accordingly.

AMERICA'S WAR ENTRY. HISTORIC SPEECHES IN HOUSE OF COMMONS.

LONDON, April 18th.

The British Parliament's welcome to our new great Ally, the United States, was given to-day, when the resolution cabled yesterday was moved by Mr. Bonar Law in the House of Commons, in the absence of Mr. Lloyd George (who is on the Continent) and by Lord Curzon in the House of Lords.

Replying in the House of Commons to a question, Sir Robert Cecil stated that America had not formally adhered to the Allies' agreement not to make a separate peace.

AMERICA'S DAY.

Sir Alfred Mond stated that the Stars and Stripes would be flown alongside the Union Jack over all Government buildings on Friday—"America's Day." He announced that the Anglo-American Governments were jointly considering the question of the construction of aircraft.

Mr. Bonar Law, in moving the resolution, said not only the members of the House of Commons, but all the people of the British Empire and Allied countries, welcomed the adhesion of their new Ally with heartfelt sympathy, not only as the greatest event, but, as he hoped and believed, as the turning point of the war. The New World had stepped in to redress the balance of the Old. The United States possessed, probably in greater degree than any other nation, resources which, in the long run, were decisive in war. The quality of her people was shown nearly sixty years ago in a struggle which was essentially not dissimilar from the present. Since then, Americans had shown resources, energy and adaptability in peace, and the same qualities would be applied equally successfully to war.

Mr. Bonar Law said that, since her entry into the war, America had already shown that her enemies must beware of her, and, despite the fact that the path immediately ahead of us has never been more difficult, he hoped and believed that the long night of sorrow and anguish which had desolated the world was drawing to a close. (Cheers.) He welcomed the adhesion of America also because it morally justified our own action. (Cheers.) America, like Britain, entered the war because she could do no other.

Mr. Bonar Law said that the entry of America was a fitting pendant to the Revolution which brought Russia into the circle of free nations. He had read with deep admiration, and profound agreement, the speech, worthy of Lincoln, in which President Wilson announced the entry of America into the war. (Cheers.) A German newspaper the other day declared that America was going to war for nothing. From a German view point that was true. America, like the British Empire, was not animated with the love of conquest, greed of territory or selfish ends. The aims and ideals that President Wilson had so nobly expressed were ours, and, like us, the Americans found that fighting was the only method of securing these aims. (Cheers.)

Mr. Asquith doubted whether even now the world had realised the full significance of the step that the United States had taken. "I do not use language of flattery or exaggeration when I say that it is one of the most disinterested acts in history." (Cheers.) He proceeded to show how the war was not doing appreciable material harm to the United States, nor was America's independence or liberty directly imperilled. She had not wanted territory. What then brought her into the war was nothing but the constraining force of the conscience of humanity, growing in compulsive authority month by month, with the gradual unfolding of the real character and aims of Germany. (Cheers.)

Mr. Asquith continued to say that America saw the whole future of civilised Government and intercourse, and particularly the fortunes and faith of democracy, imperilled. In such a situation, aloofness would not only be a blunder but a crime. "To stand aside with stopped ears, folded arms and averted gaze, when you have the power to intervene, is to become not a mere spectator but an accomplice." (Cheers.) But none of us feared how America would finally decide." (Cheers.)

Mr. Dillon, on behalf of the Nationalists, joined most heartily in welcoming the United States. He ventured the prophecy that the United States battle-roll would contain a greater portion of men of Irish blood than of any other races in America. (Cheers.) The presence of America at the Peace Conference would be a sign of hope, assurance and liberty. Mr. Wardle, on behalf of the Labourites, said, if the entrance of America into the war resulted in the establishment of a great league of nations charged to keep the world's peace, none of the sacrifices which had been made would be too great.

The House of Commons passed the resolution unanimously.

LATER.
The House of Lords has unanimously passed the resolution regarding America's entry into the war.

AMERICA AND THE WAR. GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST RUSSIA.

WASHINGTON, April 18th.

The Government is only awaiting definite word from Russia regarding her needs, upon receipt of which the United States will give her every assistance she requires, financial and otherwise.

The feeling prevails that the United States should go to almost any length to assist and strengthen the new democratic régime and make its resistance to Germany more effective.

SUBMARINE ATTACK ON U.S. DESTROYER.

The Navy Department announces that a destroyer sighted a submarine running submerged. The latter fired a torpedo, missing the destroyer by thirty yards, and then disappeared.

PROHIBITED AREAS REPORTED.

This is Germany's first recognition of the existence of a state of war, though it was reported last week that Germany was about to declare a prohibited area comprising Roston, New York, Charleston, Savannah, Delaware Capes, and Chesapeake Bay.

SENATE PASSES REVENUE BILL.

The Senate has passed unanimously the Seven Million Dollars Revenue Bill, including the amendments, which necessitate a conference of the two houses before President Wilson can sign the Bill.

CANADIANS IN FRANCE.

LONDON, April 18th.

Sir Robert Borden, in a speech, said that there are at present 125,000 Canadians in France.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE RUSSIAN ARMIES.

FORCES NOW WELL PROVIDED.

PETROGRAD, April 18th.

The Premier and other Ministers visited Headquarters to discuss questions regarding the provisioning of the Armies. They noted that the general situation of the Army, compared with the end of March, is considerably improved, especially in connection with the supply of foodstuffs. Indeed, the Armies are now well provisioned.

The Minister of Agriculture stated that it would be his duty to meet every requirement of the Armies in the matter of provisioning.

The Premier declared that the unrest which the Army showed during the first stage of the revolution had completely disappeared. The fighting spirit was steadily improving, while the discipline was excellent. The Army was quite ready to encounter the enemy.

RETURN OF STOLEN ARMS DEMANDED.

PETROGRAD, April 18th.

General Kromloff, commanding the troops at Petrograd, has issued a proclamation calling upon the people to return 40,000 rifles and 30,000 revolvers which were taken from the military stores during the revolution.

THE RUSSIAN LOAN.

PATRIOTIC APPEAL.

PETROGRAD, April 18th.

In connection with the opening of the great Liberty Loan, the Government has issued an appeal pointing out that the enemy's aim is to restore the old régime. Therefore it is Russia's duty to subscribe to the loan to ensure victory and to safeguard the new liberty.

RIOTS AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

GERMAN HOUSES BURNED.

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 18th.

A crowd at Porto Alegre, Rio de Grande do Sul, attacked and damaged 370 German houses and set fire to the German Club, a hotel, and a large store. The police were powerless.

The fire spread to the houses of Brazilians.

The riot was provoked by the Germans at a hotel fuelling a passing tram-car whose occupants were cheering the Allies.

A mob entered the house of a German, where they found a poisoning plant. The occupier was arrested.

The whole garrison of the State was called out to prevent a spread of the disorders.

ANTI-GERMAN RIOTING SPREADING.

PETROGRAD, April 18th.

The anti-German rioting appears to be spreading, and has now reached Rio Clara, in the State of São Paulo.

The Germans at Parana are becoming alarmed and are flocking to Santa Catharina, which is a German stronghold.

WARNING TO THE KAISER.

WHAT ALLIES' VICTORY MEANS TO GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, April 18th.

Count Reventlow, writing in the *Pages Zeitung*, warns the Kaiser not to heed the appeals now appearing in many German newspapers to renounce territorial expansion.

The Count declares:—"Without German victory the German Monarchy will soon cease to exist."

TROUBLE ACUTE IN VIENNA.

AMSTERDAM, April 18th.

A telegram from Vienna indicates that the acute political trouble continues. Two more Ministers have resigned, it is believed, because they regard that the convocation of the Reichsrath next month is highly inopportune, fearing that the Russian revolution will stimulate the demands of the reform party.

CHINESE TELEGRAM.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG WAO SAN PO."]

MINISTERS CHARGED WITH BRIBERY.

SHANGHAI, April 18th.

The Minister and Vice-Minister of Finance have been dismissed from office by the President's mandate and delivered to the legal authorities on a charge of bribery.

CZAR AND DUMA.

A TWO YEARS' CONFLICT.

DEMOCRACY: A REACTION.

The abdication of the Czar of Russia, and the seizure of control by the Duma, have followed a long series of extraordinary political developments. The startling climax reached has been brought about by the remarkable change in political opinion manifested in the Duma during the second year of the war.

The moderate parties, the Progressives, the Octobrists, and even a section of the Conservatives, were brought into closer sympathy with the Constitutional Democrats, the chief opposition party, by the change of opinion, which was due, in the main, to the observations and experiences, in the war, of the conservative members. Scores of these were, between sessions, actively engaged in war work, which brought them into intimate touch with the army and the people, and gave them an opportunity of seeing the incompetence of the bureaucracy in dealing with great national undertakings and problems. The things they saw and heard seriously affected their political outlook, and when they reassembled in the Duma, their attitude towards the Government, on the one hand, and the people on the other, had undergone a complete change. More than three-fourths of them had become more or less liberalised.

M. A. N. Khvostoff, leader of the Duma party of the Extreme Right, experienced this revolution of political feeling, and joined the Liberals in severely criticising Governmental measures. He confessed that the war had compelled him to alter his views, and said that in the interests of the nation it was necessary to utilise as far as possible the strength of the people in co-operative work. Even the extreme reactionaries moved towards the Left, and the balance of political power in the Duma moved in the direction of the Constitutional Democrats.

Before the war the Government could generally rely on the support of 300 members out of 439, but in less than a year and a half the relative strength of the contending parties was reversed. Liberals and moderate Liberals controlling 300 votes, and the Government parties fewer than 140. In the autumn session of 1915 the so-called "Progressive bloc" was formed. This was a coalition made up chiefly of the Progressives. At that time the Duma comprised 14 political groups or factions, all but five of them being under the control of the "bloc."

The "bloc" programme included autonomy for Poland, a more conciliatory policy in Finland, amnesty for political and religious offences not of criminal character, equal rights for the Jews, recognition of the legality of trades unions, and removal of the restriction on independent popular opinion in general.

Naturally the Government took alarm at the Duma's forthwith promulgated, "bloc" programme. But the people, and the "bloc" all the support they could. The congress of zemstvos (shire councils) and municipalities, which assembled in Moscow five days later, carried resolutions for representatives to the Duma, in which it was declared that the war must be carried to a victorious conclusion, and that, as a means to this end, the reassembling of the Duma and the reconstruction of the Ministry were vitally essential.

Discontent increased when the Czar's promise of reconvening the Duma on November 14 was not fulfilled, and on December 7 (1915) he found it necessary to give reasons for the breach of covenant. A little later, finding it inexpedient to further postpone the assembly of the Duma, he called the representatives of the people together, and to place them in a measure, dismissed Goremkin, his reactionary Premier, appointing in his stead M. Sturmer, a lieutenant of German extraction, and as was believed, of pro-German sympathies, after which the Duma was twice prorogued, possibly in the hope that the Progressive bloc would disintegrate between sessions. But while the bureaucracy showed itself less and less capable of dealing with the problems waiting for solution, the "bloc" steadily gained in strength and aggressiveness.

The Czar changed the Minister for the Interior four times in less than 10 months; finally, in October or November 1915, appointing M. A. D. Protopopoff, a wealthy land owner from Simbirsk. He was a member of the Duma and an Octobrist, but he was too pliable to represent the aggressive popular majority in the Duma, and refused to give his programme before interviewing the Czar, after which he proclaimed it to be that of the Ministry then in power.

Bitter disappointment met his announcement. As the winter approached, many parts of the Empire began to suffer from shortage of food and fuel, though as a whole the country contained abundant supplies. Measures of relief adopted by the Government failed, whilst in some provinces embargoes were placed on grain shipments. Between inadequate railway facilities, provincial embargoes, and fixed prices there was a plethora of food in some provinces and in others a condition not far from famine. The widespread distress intensified the hostility of the people to the bureaucracy, and an attempt was made when the Duma met for the 1916 autumn session to cut the bureaucratic cords that bound the faces of the people to the stone.

The leader of the Constitutional Democrats, M. Milukoff, struck the blow, and brought on an open fight between the people and the Progressive bloc, on one side, and the Ministers and the bureaucracy on the other. The Czar was apparently compelled to give way. The reactionary Premier, was dismissed, and General Troppoff placed in office. Troppoff, though not a Liberal by any means, was anxious to keep the peace, and to work with the Duma, as far as his colleagues would let him. He thus became obnoxious to M. Protopopoff, who by this time had become almost all-powerful, and the head of the reactionary element in the bureaucracy. He soon had to make way for Prince Gollitsin, a conservative, who could be trusted to obey orders. In the reshuffle, the opportunity was taken to dismiss Count Ignatieff, the Minister of Education, the one man of modern views and sympathies remaining in the Cabinet, and very soon after his fate was shared by the Minister of War, who had a few months before declared his wish for the co-operation of the Duma.

But the bold attack on the Government in the Duma, and the support it received outside, was evidence that the nation would not continue to tolerate the way in which Ministers were bungling the war, and would insist on (Continued at foot of next column.)

LIFE IN A "U" BOAT.

NO SEA-SICKNESS.

There is a widely prevalent idea that a submarine being a cramped and dangerous sort of craft, life must of necessity be a hard thing for its crew.

This opinion goes astray in that it leaves out of account the changes which increased displacement has wrought in submersible vessels. Not the least notable of these is a great improvement in living accommodation. So much has this been bettered that the complement of a modern "U" boat are more comfortable at sea, all things considered, than the crew of a Hun destroyer. For while the latter must face bad weather as best they can (when they venture to face it at all), the "U" boat can secure ease by "going down" until conditions improve. She may "sleep" upon the bottom until the weather moderates, or, if the water be too deep for that, submerge so far that surface wave motion no longer affects her. Her crew need not risk sea-sickness—and they do not.

Admittedly that is only part of the story. One may avoid rough weather, and still find life aboard anything but joyful. Such matters as food, living conditions, and general environment are factors not to be overlooked, and in all of these the Hun pirates does not do so badly if from "general environment" we miss out the British Navy, which is the one bunch of bitter herbs in Hans the Buccaneer's otherwise passable soup. One might imagine that being boxed up in a steel cylinder for hours at a stretch subjects him to much physical discomfort. It does not. In fact, so far as the men inside her are concerned, the crew of a "U" boat would hardly know whether their craft was awash or submerged were it not for working the machinery that has to be put in motion to get her up or down. Inside her they are quite warm and comfortable, not very hard worked, and able to move, and breathe quite freely. For their leisure hours the "U" boat crews have gramophones and a good supply of tobacco.

A long submergence may result in the air in the boat getting somewhat heavy. Leaving out exceptional circumstances, that is the worst to be said of it, and a few hours on the surface at night with the conning-tower lid open will purify the atmosphere within the craft so that she can dive for hour after hour again without her crew suffering any difficulty in respiration.

For the majority of the men, work being light and living conditions not as irksome as one might suppose, the life of a pirate is not fraught with many physical hardships and is a fairly easy one. The war perils attaching to it belong to a side of the story which we are not looking at just now. In the matter of food the pirate is mostly able to do himself well. Cooking when below is out of the question except to warm up some water for him to drink his sausage in before he eats it, and Herr Kidd consequently has to content himself with cold meals for the most part, although he may dish himself up a good feast when his boat floats awash, using for the purpose the electric cooker fitted in her. But although his meals through force of circumstances may have to be served cold, they are substantial. The pirate likes to eat. If his own larder runs low he replenishes it from the ships he overhauls.

When they want food or any other stores the pirates take them from the ships they attack. In fact, they "loot" these quite systematically, even to relieving the crews of their money, watches, rings, and other personal belongings of even trifling value whenever they think it safe to do so.

At one time "U" boats were supplied with wine and cigars, though one does not hear much of such luxuries abroad these days. None the less they may be there in diminished quantities. Of this much there can, however, be little doubt: the German pirates do not lead such a hard life on the domestic side as is commonly supposed.—Daily Mail.

It is right to keep the Government up to the mark.

The Russian landed classes, who form the chief element in the Duma, are entirely in favour of the war, and its continuation to a victorious finish. They are, moreover, uncompromisingly anti-German. They have fought against German influence since the reign of Peter the Great.

With the bureaucracy it is very different. The bureaucracy is entirely a product of German influence, and is well aware that only by an incisive peace can it save itself from extinction. Hence its pro-German sympathies.

The existence of this antagonism explains why the majority of the Duma adopted all the resolutions directed against the so-called "back forces." The Union of Zemstvos, forbidden by M. Protopopoff to hold its annual congress, which is attended by delegates from every shire and local council in Russia, and voices the feelings of the country population even more accurately than the Duma. In defiance of the Minister the delegates met "privately" and declared their adherence to the anti-Government resolutions carried by the Duma. And the Duma when it met attacked the Zemstvos by declaring its resolve to fight the Government to a finish. Events show that this declaration was meant seriously.

How well-informed and dispassionate Russians regarded the course followed by the Czar and his advisers is well shown by the attitude of Count Benckendorff, the distinguished Russian Ambassador in London, and one of the authors of the Anglo-Russian entente. Speaking to a Russian friend shortly before his death, he said, commenting on M. Sturmer's appointment as Premier: "When I see how Russia is being pushed to the edge of the abyss by the hands of men whose duty it is to save her from peril, my sufferings are inexpressible. In Petrograd they accuse me of being a Liberal. Of course I am a Liberal in comparison with those who are at present in power. I have spent all my life in Europe and I have formed ties of friendship with England, who enlightens and teaches. But there, in Russia, is blindness. They live with their eyes blindfolded."

DRINK IN UNITED STATES.

THE "DRY BONE" LAW.

On February 21st the United States House of Representatives adopted the Senate's amendment to the Prohibition Bill forbidding shipments of liquors into States having prohibition laws by 291 votes to 72. The measure is popularly described as the "dry bone" law, because it is expected to render absolutely "dry" those States which have hitherto permitted shipments of limited quantities of liquor from other States.

The Times Washington correspondent describes, in the following article the great and growing force of the temperance movement in the United States.

Few things are now more important, and nothing is now more superficially paradoxical in the United States than the impetus which the temperance movement is assuming. It proves how little there is in common between the real instincts of the country and the spectacular and glittering manifestations of American life which so often deceive the casual stranger.

Visit any of the large American cities, and one finds a vortex of gaiety and thoughtless extravagance that seems to justify the accusation that in peace and prosperity the United States is in danger of losing her soul. Attend the debates in Congress on prohibition, study the conditions which are introduced by its members, and their correspondence, talk to the members of nearly any State legislature, and one gets a very different picture. So far from being softly careless the United States is on the verge of embarking upon one of the greatest imaginable self-denying experiments in what may be called national eugenics that the world has ever seen.

Counting the crop of new "dry" States produced by the election last November, 23 out of the 48 States of the Union are now legally committed to prohibition; while the majority of the rest have local option, like New York State, for instance. But that is not the important thing. What really counts is the gradual nationalization of the movement. It is that which gives it its eventually popular flavour.

President Wilson and Cardinal Gibbons, to mention two of the important leaders of the national thought for local option. They believe that it is the right of each State to decide whether it wants to drink or not. Other leaders, like the average Conservative, on the one hand, and Mr. Gompers, the President of the American Federation of Labour, on the other, believe that in the interests of the liberty of the subject there should be no restrictive legislation. Mr. Bryan, in fact, is up to date the only conspicuous politician who is for national temperance. Yet public opinion, through Congress, moves steadily towards it.

Two big temperance victories.

Recently it scored two most important victories. The Supreme Court allowed the constitutionality of a law, voted by Mr. Taft while President as unconstitutional, which obliges liquor dealers to obey the laws of the State into which they wish to ship their commodities. Simultaneously Congress for the first time took a direct part in the movement by prohibiting after the beginning of the next fiscal year the sale of intoxicants in public places in the District of Columbia (Washington), the seat of the national Government.

Of the two measures the Liquor-Shipments Law is the most telling. Its ratification revolutionizes the whole situation. It paves the way for the next step of the Blue Ribbon people, which is a really serious effort for a Federal amendment enabling Congress to legislate drink out of existence in one fell swoop from California to Maine. At least, so they think, their arguments are plausible. So far, they say, they have suffered hopelessly under that clause of the Constitution which reserves the regulation of commerce between the States to the Federal Government. A State might pass a law forbidding the sale of liquor; but it was not clear that it could forbid the importation of liquor. The result has been the stultification of wholesale State temperance laws, the passage of many half-hearted laws, and a general slackness in enforcement.

Thus some States, like South Carolina and Virginia, allow each person to import a quota of wine and spirits a month, with the result that children and, it is said, cats and dogs have been known altruistically to avail themselves of the privilege on behalf of their parents and masters; while in other States, like Maine, the oldest "dry" State in the Union, strict laws are unblushingly ignored. Only three States—West Virginia, Arizona, and Oregon—are in fact what the prohibitionists call legally "bone-dry."

Now, however, the Anti-Saloon League and other organizations are sanguine that in 10 years the United States will be absolutely "dry." The opposition are nervous, but not utterly cast down. They think that real Prohibition will prove too uncomfortable for the amateur reformer. They argue that prohibition has so far never really prohibited. They support their argument by stories, some of which may well be true of unblushing smuggling, or extra carriages to trains on Saturday nights going from wet to dry States to accommodate the "suit-case brigade" of week-end whisky smugglers, of "speak-easies," and almost overt drinking-lounges in other "dry" States besides Maine. How otherwise, they ask, can the prohibitionists explain the statistical fact that, though Prohibition has enormously increased in recent years, the consumption of liquor has also increased?

Be that as it may, the fight has at least entered a very serious stage. Prohibition in America, in spite of the cocktail and trading habit, which has struck all travellers from Dickens downwards, is as I have indicated above, a far more popular movement than in any European country. The Puritan tradition which has swept westward from New England is a hot drink ended on its way to the rain, and after he had been caught in the rain, his honeycomb contained nothing more potent than lemonade. A kindred factor to this popular prejudice is the power (Continued at foot of next column.)

A THOUSAND MILLIONS.

AMAZING WAR LOAN FIGURES.

The total figures of the Victory War Loan were communicated to the House of Commons by Mr. Bonar Law, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The results, far exceeding even the most sanguine expectations, astonished and thrilled the House, and Mr. Bonar Law's triumph was loudly cheered. These are the figures of new money subscribed, short-dated Treasury Bills being included in the total:

Through Bank of England ... £19,586,000
Treasury Bills Converted ... 130,711,950
Subscribed through Post Offices 30,715,000
War Savings Certificates ... 19,900,000

Total ... £100,903,950

The War Savings Certificates are those sold during the currency of the loan.

Only £22,000,000 is subscribed to the 4 per cent. income tax free loan. Explaining the efforts made to induce him to issue the loan at 6 per cent., Mr. Bonar Law said: "Through the necessity of keeping up our exchange the value of money on the London market has long been much higher than it could have been otherwise, and the result was that up to the very week when the loan was issued Exchequer Bonds at 6 per cent. and Treasury Bills at 4 per cent. were still being issued. In consequence of this high level of money it was urged upon me by many of those most competent to judge that the rate of the loan should be 6 per cent. And I was warned that it would be a failure if I did not take that advice. I decided, as I am sure any Chancellor of the Exchequer in my place would have decided, that it would be a less evil to risk comparative failure than to stultify British credit at that figure (6 per cent.). I may say that I do not anticipate even comparative failure." (Cheers.)

FREE GIFTS TO THE LOAN.

The amount of new money subscribed to the loan exceeds the amount of the two previous loans together. (Loud cheers.) The 1915 loan brought in £61,000,000 but of that £20,000,000 was subscribed directly by the banks. All would agree that if it was not necessary, it was undesirable to have such large contributions from the banks; but it was a right policy in 1915, when the deposits of the banks had largely increased. The Chancellor paid a heavy tribute to the work the banks had done for the new loan.

Apart from the figures quoted, 444 individual gifts amounting to £64,000 had been received, and 87 individuals had made loans free of interest, amounting to £196,000. This meant an addition of a quarter of a million to the loan. Promises to return interest to the amount of £13,000 a year had been made by 15 individuals.

Comparing our success with the German loans, Mr. Bonar Law said the last German loan raised £32,000,000, and the one before that £68,000,000. "It is instructive to note that the German loans have become smaller, while ours have increased," he pointed out.

Calculating numbers of subscribers, he said our 1915 loan had 1,100,000 subscribers, divided almost equally between the Post Office and the Bank of England. In this latest loan, 1,069,000 applications received through banks numbered 1,069,000. (Cheers.) This, however, did not represent the total number of individuals, as many firms took up loan on behalf of their employees, the names of whom were not given. The number of applications through the Post Office was 1,000,000. It was impossible to give more than an estimate of the number of people taking up War Savings Certificates. It was known that 400,000 took sums of £12 and upwards and the number of 15s. 6d. certificates sold was 5,600,000. He thought they might estimate an average of two certificates to a person, and that would give 2,800,000 subscribers.

The total subscribers were thus brought up to 5,290,000. (Loud cheers.) In the case of our War Savings Certificates arrangements made to receive week by week small subscriptions until the amount of £100,000,000 was reached, and the amount taken into account the total number of applications would not be fewer than 8,000,000. This compared with 3,810,000 subscribers to the last German loan, where the subscriptions were as low as 1s. and though Germany had a population exceeding ours by nearly 20 per cent. (Cheers.) He could give no figures of the amount of conversion, but he thought it might be estimated that the greater bulk of the 4 per cent. loan had been converted. Approximately £233,000,000 of Exchequer Bonds had been converted.

When the loan was issued the outstanding Treasury Bills amounted to £1,053,000,000. Some had been paid off, some had been converted, and the amount now was £718,000,000. Therefore, including Exchequer Bonds, which are really not floating debt at the time of the loan was about £682,000,000, and it is now about £394,000,000. The cost of raising the loan, including the advertising and all expenses of the War Savings Associations, was £750,000.

A number of gifts of jewellery were received, but he did not think they were entitled to accept these sacrifices and he had sent it back, except in two cases where the jewellery was sent anonymously.

"The enthusiasm and the widespread nature of the applications are expressions of the will of the people of this country to win the war, and the result of the loan is evidence of the financial ability of this country to see it to a successful conclusion." (Loud cheers.)

Mr. McKenna offered his congratulations on the "unparalleled success" of the loan.

of the women—as is witnessed by the extraordinary strides that woman suffrage has made in a community where there is really not much economic or social need for it, and by the extraordinary energy that the modern American women display in all social reform movements good and bad, local and national.

But stronger and all perhaps the feeling that efficiency and alcohol cannot go together. In the South the chief argument for temperance has been the wish of the white community to make the negro a less inefficient member of society. Keep bad whisky from him and it has been found that his capacity for crime decreases and his capacity for work grows. In the North temperance has become a part of industrial efficiency. Everywhere in fact the prejudice against drink spreads spontaneously. Countless business men have stood off cocktails, because they tell one, they impair their ability to cope with modern competition. They must be at their best all the time or go under.—Times.

GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND.

NATIONALIST MANIFESTO.

The Irish Nationalists held a meeting at the House of Commons last month, and discussed the situation arising out of their refusal to accept the Government proposal for the settlement of the Home Rule controversy. Mr. Redmond occupied the chair, and sixty-six members attended. After deliberating for two hours the party decided to issue the manifesto set out below:—

The Prime Minister, in his speech in yesterday's debate, took up a position which, if adhered to, would involve the denial of self-government to Ireland for ever. In it he laid down the principle that a small minority in the North-East of Ulster should have a veto, so long as they chose to exercise it, on self-government for a United Ireland. That is a position to which the representatives of Ireland could never assent. He asserted that he had never changed his position on this question of the so-called coercion of Ulster. That is not true. He was a party to the drafting of the original Home Rule Bill, which applied to all Ireland. He was a party to the rejection in two successive sessions, in face of the most passionate protests from the representatives of North-Eastern

Ulster, of amendments excluding Ulster. When under pressure of the threatened rebellion of Ulster, he and the Government of which he was a member, weakly yielded to the threats of rebellion hurled at them by Sir Edward Carson, the present First Lord of the Admiralty, the Government of that day, through the present Prime Minister, appealed to us to consent to the concession of county option for a strictly limited period. We agreed, on the pledge repeatedly given by Mr. Lloyd George on his own behalf, and on behalf of the Government, that if we consented to this concession we should never be asked for any further concession, and that the Government would undertake to see the settlement through at any cost. How, then, can Mr. Lloyd George say that he has never changed his attitude on the question of Ulster?

The negotiations of last July, undertaken by us at the urgent request of the Government, referred to a strictly temporary arrangement, with the express understanding that one year after the end of the war things would revert to the status quo ante. The attitude taken up by the Prime Minister last night was therefore, a total change of the position on the Ulster question, and generally on the question of Home Rule for Ireland, and a breach of faith with the Irish party and the Irish nation, and his speech will undoubtedly tend to intensify the distrust of the pledges of British Ministers, now so widely spread in Ireland, and have a most serious effect in strengthening the power of the revolutionary movement in that country. In view of the terrible seriousness of the situation for Ireland and the Empire created by this speech of the Prime Minister, we felt it would be idle to prolong the debate, and felt bound to mark in the most emphatic method open to us our sense of the gravity of the situation, and to meet immediately for consideration as to the future policy of the Irish National party.

TO IRISHMEN ABROAD.

At the outset we must declare that the action of the British Government since the formation of the Coalition in May, 1915, culminating in the speech of the Prime Minister last night, has made the task of carrying on the constitutional movement in Ireland so difficult as to be almost impossible. The constitutional movement can yet be saved, but only by the active assistance of all level-headed Nationalists in Ireland, and in a special degree by the aid of the millions of the Irish race in the great Dominions of the Crown and in the United States of America. To them we appeal most earnestly to come to the aid of those who have rescued Ireland from being made the catspaw and tool of Germany, and are struggling against terrible odds to keep open the road to Irish liberty through peaceful and constitutional means, a struggle in which we are hampered by a British Government which plays into the hands of the Irish pro-German revolutionary party, with a stupid perversity worthy of the worst reactionaries of Petrograd.

So far as Ireland is concerned, the Government is doing all it can to do the work of Germany, and so long as this attitude is adhered to we, as Irish representatives, while retaining our attitude towards the war and remaining firmly convinced of the justice of the cause of the Allies, and unchanged in our resolve to do all in our power to aid in bringing it to a speedy and successful issue, feel bound to oppose the Government by every means in our power.

The Senate of Australia has already spoken effectively in support of Irish freedom, and on behalf of the Irish nation we tender them our most grateful thanks. To the men of Irish blood in the Dominions and in the United States of America we appeal that they should promptly use all the means in their power to bring pressure on the British Government to act towards Ireland in accordance with the principles for which they are fighting in Europe, and we especially appeal to the American people to urge upon the British Government the duty of applying to Ireland the great principles so clearly and splendidly enumerated by President Wilson in his historic address to the Senate of America.

"ASAHI BEER."



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-MORROW.
Noon—Hongkong Jockey Club, Half-Yearly Meeting.
3 p.m.—First Gymkhana Meeting at Race Course, Happy Valley.

Monday, 23rd April—
St. George's Day.
Morning, Sale of Brides.
Afternoon, Fête and Café at Volunteer Headquarters.
Fast Sailing Model Yacht Baffle.
9.15 p.m.—"Scenes from Shakespeare" at the Theatre Royal.

Wednesday, 24th April—
11 a.m.—Auction of Books and Shoes, &c., at Sales Rooms, by Mr. Geo. P. Lammert.
Noon—Hongkong Tramway Co., Ltd. Ordinary General Meeting at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.
5 p.m.—Matinee Performance of "Scenes from Shakespeare" at the Theatre Royal, in aid of War Charities.

Thursday, 25th April—
11 a.m.—Auction of Books and Shoes, &c., at Sales Rooms, by Mr. Geo. P. Lammert.
Noon—Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd. Ordinary Yearly Meeting.
12.30 p.m.—China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. Ordinary Yearly Meeting.
12.45 p.m.—British Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd. Ordinary Yearly Meeting.

Saturday, 28th April—
9.15 p.m.—"Scenes from Shakespeare" at the Theatre Royal, in aid of War Charities.
Thursday, 3rd May—
Noon—Canton Insurance Office, Ltd. Meeting of Shareholders.
Saturday, 5th May—
Noon—Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd. Ordinary General Meeting.

HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Hongkong Observatory, April 18th.

	Previous Day at 2 p.m.	Date On Date at 6 a.m.	Date On Date at 2 p.m.
Barometer ...	29.80	29.82	29.79
Temperature ...	70	69	71
Humidity ...	91	91	95
Wind Direction ...	East	East	SE
Force ...	4	4	1
Weather ...	Partly	Partly	Partly
Rain ...	0.07	—	0.04

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General Agents.

C. N. C.
CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	STEAMERS	T. SAIL
SHANGHAI	"YINGHONG"	On 22nd Apr. D'light
MANILA, CEBU and ILOILO	"TAMING"	On 24th Apr. Noon
SHANGHAI	"CHENAN"	On 24th Apr. 4 P.M.
TIENSIN	"HUICHOW"	On 16th Apr. Noon
SHANGHAI	"SZECHUEN"	On 26th Apr. 4 P.M.

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"HAIHONG"	... Capt. J. W. Evans	... TUESDAY,	24th Apr., at Noon.

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Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents or advice.
Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.
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via SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE	Capt. H. Yachi	12,500	May, at Noon.
NAGOYA and YOKOHAMA	"YOKOHAMA MARU"	(WEDNESDAY,	9th
	Capt. Terada	12,500	May, at Noon.

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SHANGHAI and KOBE	"CEYLON MARU"	(SATURDAY,	21st
	Capt. Tenda	10,000	Apr.

SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE	"RANGOON MARU"	(THURSDAY,	3rd
	Capt. Kobayashi	8,000	May.

NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"TANGO MARU"	(FRIDAY,	18th
	Capt. Boyeda	13,500	May, at 11 A.M.

SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"KATOBI MARU"	(MONDAY,	30th
	Capt. Kato	11,000	Apr., at 11 A.M.
YOKOHAMA	"KAMO MARU"	(SATURDAY,	12th
	Capt. Inoue	16,000	May, at 11 A.M.

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KOREA MARU	18,000 — 18 knots	MON., 30th April, Noon.
YIBIRIA MARU	18,000 — 18 knots	SATUR., 12th May
TENYO MARU	25,000 — 21 knots	WED., 23rd May
NIPPON MARU	11,000 — 15 knots	MON., 11th June
SHINYO MARU	22,000 — 21 knots	TUES., 19th June
PERSIA MARU	9,000 — 14 knots	TUES., 3rd July

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"PANAMA MARU"		FRIDAY,	11th May, at 3 P.M.

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"SOSHU MARU"		THURSDAY,	26th Apr., at 8 A.M.
"AMAKURA MARU"		SUNDAY,	29th Apr., at Noon.

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